UNIVERSITÉ CONCORDIA
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

1455 ouest, boul. de Maisonneuve
Montréal, Québec H3G 1M8
Telephone (514) 848-4880

NORTH KOREANS PAY UNEXPECTED VISIT TO MONTREAL

MONTREAL / June 14, 1988 --- Despite violence and threats of violence surrounding this summer's Olympic Games in Seoul, North Korean officials paid an unexpected visit to Canada this week to try to strengthen international contacts with the West.

Concordia University played host to the first academic delegation ever to visit North America from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The visit is the first step in initiating formal contacts between universities in North Korea and Canada.

Seen above greeting the three-member delegation is Concordia University Academic Vice-Rector Francis Whyte (2nd from right), and Martin Singer (2nd from left), Director of Concordia's Council for International Cooperation.

The Korean delegation is from the Korean Academy of Social Sciences in the North Korean capital of Pyongyang.

Last year Concordia became the first university in the western world to establish a joint doctoral program (in Engineering) with a university in the People's Republic of China.

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For additional information contact Concordia University Public Relations Director KEN WHITTINGHAM at (514) 848-4879.